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Rebecca Baumann



#6

PATENT

Attorney Docket No. NTI-020

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application)

PATENT APPLICATION

Inventor(s): J. Tracy Weed et al.)

Art Unit: 2812

Application No.: 09/752,809)

Examiner: unknown

Filed: 12/27/2000)

Title "MANUFACTURING INTEGRATED
CIRCUITS")

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Listed below or on an attached Form PTO-1449 is information known to applicant(s). A copy of each listed publication and U.S. and foreign patent, except for pending U.S. applications, is being submitted herewith, along with a concise explanation of information in a foreign language, if any, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97-1.98.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed information be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the above-identified application. If form PTO-1449 is enclosed, the Examiner is requested to initial and return it in accordance with MPEP § 609.

This statement is not intended to represent that a search has been made or that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

☒ This statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, subsection (b) because (check all that apply):

- ☐ (1) It is being filed within 3 months of the application filing date and is other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d)
-- OR --
- ☐ (2) It is being filed within 3 months of entry of a national stage.
-- OR --
- ☒ (3) It is being filed before the mail date of the first Office Action on the merits.
-- OR --
- ☐ (4) It is being filed before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114

☐ 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c). If this statement is being filed after the period specified in § 1.97(b), but before the mailing date of the earlier of a final office action under § 1.113, a notice of allowance under § 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, then:

- ☐ a certification as specified in § 1.97(e) is provided below; **or**
- ☐ a fee of \$180.00 as set forth in § 1.17(p) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.

☐ 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d). If this statement is being filed after the period specified in § 1.97(c), but on or before payment of the issue fee, then:

- A. a certification as specified in § 1.97(e) is completed below; **and**
- B. a fee of \$180.00 as set forth in § 1.17(p) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.

☒ **Fee Authorization.** The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 50-0574 (Docket No. NTI-020).

Respectfully submitted,

BEVER, HOFFMAN & HARMS, LLP

Dated: 11-20-02

By: 

Jeanette S. Harms, Reg. No. 35,537

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Customer No. 29477

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

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of

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Attorney Docket Number

NTI-020

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.